

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. We used to have a Fairness Doctrine that required companies using out airwaves to inform the public about both sides of an election or an issue. With the current system, whoever owns the stations is apparently free to use our public airwaves for their personal political agenda. This does not serve the public interest,

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.